

Stevie Wonder strikes chord
in UN appeal for disabled pg 2

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Tuesday, September 21, 2010

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Unrealistic to expect immediate quake recovery in Haiti

NEW YORK CITY (AFP) - Nine months after the devastating earthquake in Haiti, the United States and France warned yetserday against the growing impatience in the Caribbean nation over the slow pace of recovery.

US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and French Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner made the remarks during a meeting with Haitian Prime Minister Jean-Max Belleville, on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly in New York.

"Those who expect progress immediately are unrealistic and doing a disservice to the many people who are working so hard," the chief US diplomat said.

"But to expect less than concerted effort every day that produces results would be a great tragedy," Clinton said.

The Haitian premier called for a solution to be offered within three months for at least half of Haitians who have lost their homes, and who are doing their best to survive in temporary shelters.

Sarkozy says banks must help meet poverty goals

UNITED NATIONS (AFP) - French President Nicolas Sarkozy yesterday called for a global tax on financial transactions at a Millennium Goals summit where the UN chief led pleas for a new drive to cut extreme poverty.

UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon said the struggling effort to help the most vulnerable populations could still be met if world leaders provide the necessary money, aid and political will.

About 140 heads of state or

government are to speak at the three-day meeting aiming to rejuvenate the campaign to meet the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) first launched at a UN summit in 2000.

The aims include cutting the more than one billion people living on less than a dollar a day, reducing by two-thirds the number of children who die before the age of five, seeking fairer trade, and spreading the Internet to the world's poor.



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Today is International Day of Peace: 5th anniversary of the Aruba Peace Labyrinth



Located just a short distance from Aruba's popular tour attraction, Alto Vista Chapel, is a monument to world peace constructed by a small but dedicated group of islanders, the Aruba Peace Labyrinth. Today, September 21, is International Day of Peace as de-

clared by the UN General Assembly in 2002. When passing the resolution they stated "Peace Day should be devoted to commemorating and strengthening the ideals of peace both within and among all nations and peoples."

The Aruba Peace La-

byrinth was completed just in time to celebrate the International Day of Peace five years ago, and since that time, a ritual observance involving island children has been conducted with growing participation each year.

Continued on page 5

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Bermuda emerges unscathed from Hurricane Igor

HAMILTON, Bermuda (AFP) - Bermuda was cleaning up yesterday after emerging mostly unscathed from Hurricane Igor, which hit the island chain with ferocious winds and rains causing huge power outages, but no loss of life.

The unusually large category one storm had an eye that was bigger than Bermuda, and it was feared that it would flatten the British overseas territory of some 65,000 inhabitants when it struck Sunday.

But in the end Igor's impact was limited with little structural damage, despite a massive loss of power that affected every corner of the island chain.

Power company Belco said 28,700 of its 35,000 customers were without electricity. It was not immediately known how long Bermudans would have to go without power, but past outages from major storms have lasted days.

The sheer size of the storm -- which had a wind field of

nearly 600 miles (965 kilometers) -- meant Bermuda was in for a continued battering even as Igor retreated, with tropical storm strength winds anticipated for much of the day.

Premier Ewart Brown sounded the alarm late last week that Igor could prove as devastating as Hurricane Fabian, which claimed four lives and caused millions of dollars of damage in 2003. Those fears proved unfounded

however.

Despite the relatively soft blow from Igor, there were still plenty of visible signs that a major storm had blown through. Palm trees were stripped bare, some homes had roofs with gaping holes or that were dislodged.

Several boats, including a government ferry, broke free of their moorings and crashed onto rocks, while tree branches were strewn across roadways.

Venezuela says no to Obama pick as ambassador

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Venezuela has officially informed the United States that it will not accept President Barack Obama's designated ambassador to Caracas, the Venezuelan envoy in Washington said yesterday.

Venezuela's President Hugo Chavez has strenuously objected to the appointment of veteran diplomat Larry Palmer after he sharply criticized the Chavez government in his Senate confirmation hearings.

The note that Venezuela sent to the US State Department on Friday said it was "impossible to accept, given what has happened, Mr Palmer as ambassador," Venezuela's ambassador to Washington, Bernardo Alvarez, told reporters.

He said the United States "can send another candidate for Venezuela's consideration."

But State Department spokesman Mark Toner insisted that "Palmer remains our nominee."

US envoy: World cannot pay for Pakistan flood disaster

UNITED NATIONS (AFP) - The outside world cannot foot the entire bill for Pakistan's recovery from devastating floods and the Pakistani government must do more, US special envoy Richard Holbrooke said yesterday.

The day after world donors raised aid pledges to almost two billion dollars, Holbrooke said the eventual cost of the monsoon disaster could run into the "tens of billions of dollars."

"The international community will not be able to pick up the full cost of reconstruction," Holbrooke said.

"There will be a need for continued international assis-

tance, but what we need to stress is that at a time of scarcity in other countries, a reconstruction effort cannot be financed completely by other countries."

The US envoy called on the Pakistani government to redouble its efforts to help the 21 million people the UN estimates have been affected by the disaster, including 12 million needing emergency food aid.

"They have to take the lead. Pakistanis know they have to do more and how much they do remains to be seen, and what the needs are remain to be seen," Holbrooke said.

Torrential rain began falling in northern Pakistan in late

GENEVA, Switzerland (AFP) - Blind US soul music star Stevie Wonder struck up a sing-along at a UN agency yesterday as he urged countries to unlock access to copyrighted material that disabled people need for their education and livelihoods.

"What I would like to do today is launch what I call the 'Declaration of freedom for people with disabilities'," he told delegates at the opening of the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) assembly in Geneva. "It's a call to action, a plan that will empower the independence of people with disabilities by providing them with the tools to learn and grow."

Wonder said millions of intellectually capable disabled people are being deprived of information and knowledge essential for their education and other opportunities.

The Motown legend struck a chord with diplomats and legal experts, eliciting humming and hesitant singing to classics like "I Just Called to Say I Love You", "My Cherie Amour" and "You are the Sunshine of My Life."

"I gave the example with the songs, people know the songs because they were able to hear them," he said afterwards.

"There are people who have probably even far more to offer than myself who are locked into this kind of prison because information is not available to them," he said.

WIPO's 184 members are at loggerheads over broader access to copyrighted material for people with disabilities that would allow it to be copied more readily into braille for the blind or provided in an accessible digital and audio form.

About 314 million blind or visually impaired people alone stand to benefit, according to the agency.

One of Wonder's aides estimated that five percent of printed materials and books are available in a readable form for the blind or visually impaired in industrialised nations, and just one percent in developing countries.

The World Blind Union endorsed Stevie Wonder's call, backing a proposal by Brazil, Ecuador, Mexico and Paraguay as the "best hope for a speedy solution to eradicate the book famine."

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Spectacular keyboardist Lao Tizer is one of the top-flight artists at Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival



The fourth Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival will take place on October 8 and 9, with a warm-up preceding the festival. Held at Cas di Cultura, as is customary, the event has grown to full adulthood through the years. This means that world-class performers can be attracted to the event and thus the 2010 edition will be filled with the names of enormously talented artists. Names like Issac Delgado, the salsa virtuoso, Tizer featuring Karen Briggs, Marcus Miller, Swing Design, Red Fulka with Roel Calister will be the festival's headliners without contest.

Following a short bio of Tizer.

Captivating audiences of all ages and musical tastes, Lao Tizer and his band called TIZER, will surely wow the Aruban crowd with their spectacular performance. The recording artist has received word-wide acclaim for his 2008 all-star concert tour with international violin vir-

tuoso Karen Briggs, who stood out at Yanni's concerts and with his musical mentor Chiel Minucci. Recent successful debuts of the band have been in Asia and Africa. 'Golden Soul' was Lao's first full-production record and the single 'Her Poetry' reached Billboard's Contemporary Jazz Album chart. 'Diversify' was released in 2006; 'Passages' followed.

Lao Tizer has appeared at premier venues, sharing the stage at events worldwide with artists like Isaac Hayes, George Benson, The Commodores, Bruce Hornsby, Jethro Tull and Spyro Gyra, naming just a few. His recordings have sold over 90,000 copies and his music can be heard on radio and television airwaves worldwide.

Loa began his career during his high school years in his hometown of Boulder, Colorado, and he produced and released his first three keyboard recordings himself by the age of seventeen.

The weekly Bon Bini Festival is tonight!

ORANJESTAD -- The weekly Bon Bini Festival takes place tonight at the Fort Zoutman in Wilhelminstraat. The festival is for tourists and locals to mix and mingle and enjoy a taste of Aruban culture.

This weeks the festival will feature the traditional Aruban Caha d'Orgel. "Nos Ana Rosa," musical group; "Sodo y Cuero," Dance groups: "Mini Chaz Dancers," "Youth Chaz Dancers," and "Lollipop," solo singer: "Vale Croes" and steel band: "New Generation." MC is

Juby Naar

During the festival there will be local food, sweets and handicraft on sale.

Arubus has regularly scheduled bus transport from all hotel areas to Oranjestad's central terminal, which is only a short walk from Fort Zoutman. Round trip bus fare is US\$2.30.

Come, meet the islands, absorb some local color and culture, and get a taste of our Dushi Aruba.

The festival is from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Entrance is 5 Aruban florins or US\$3.



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Coalition emerges from St Maarten election

PHILIPSBURG, St. Maarten - St Maarten's first independent government will be a coalition. The United People's party (UP) and Democratic Party (DP) have agreed they will form a partnership to form the government under St Maarten's new constitution after none of the parties in Friday's general election was able to get an outright majority.

The UP, which won six seats, and the DP, which took two, signed a declaration of intent Sunday night to form the new government. Their total eight seats give the coalition a simple majority of the 15 seats in the new parliament.

As of October 10th the island, along with Curaçao, will become separate countries within the Kingdom of the Netherlands and will each

have its own parliament and prime minister.

Theo Heyliger, leader of the United People's party, and Sarah Wescot-Williams, leader of the Democratic Party, said that the UP and DP have agreed in principle to form the first government of Country St Maarten. The parties declared that they will do all in their power to bring about a stable and effective government in the best interest of Country St Maarten and its people.

The other seven seats are held by the National Alliance (NA) which had been in power for just over a year.

After the results of the general election were announced, NA leader William Marlin had indicated he was would begin talks with the two other parties on forming the new govern-

ment.

The NA got a total of 6,273 votes, the UP 4,936 votes, the DP won 2,340 and Concordia Political Alliance (CPA) only managed to secure 127 votes.



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Cas di Glas goes green together with the international green energy conference



The first international conference on sustainable energy and the first Cas di Glas (House of Glass) happening of Aruba are held simultaneously, both starting on September 29. The two events are working together, promoting and supporting each other, in an effort to get as many visitors to the Renaissance Marketplace venue as possible. Former US vice president and Nobel Prize laureate Al Gore is the keynote speaker, who will officially declare the 'green energy' conference open; Minister Mike Eman will 'open' the Cas di Glas by turning the key, locking Siomara, DJ 101 and Jean Carlo into the house, where they will stay for four times 24 consecutive hours. The Cas di Glas house is environment-friendly, by the way, with LED lighting courtesy of Small Energy and solar energy provided by Engysol.

When the Cas di Glas fundraising effort to be able to buy a mobile breast cancer screening unit goes underway, attracting thousands of people with the live performances of bands and deejays, several unusual cars can be seen driving around: those are of the NUNA Solar Car series, the NUNA 4, as well



Professor Wubbo Ockels

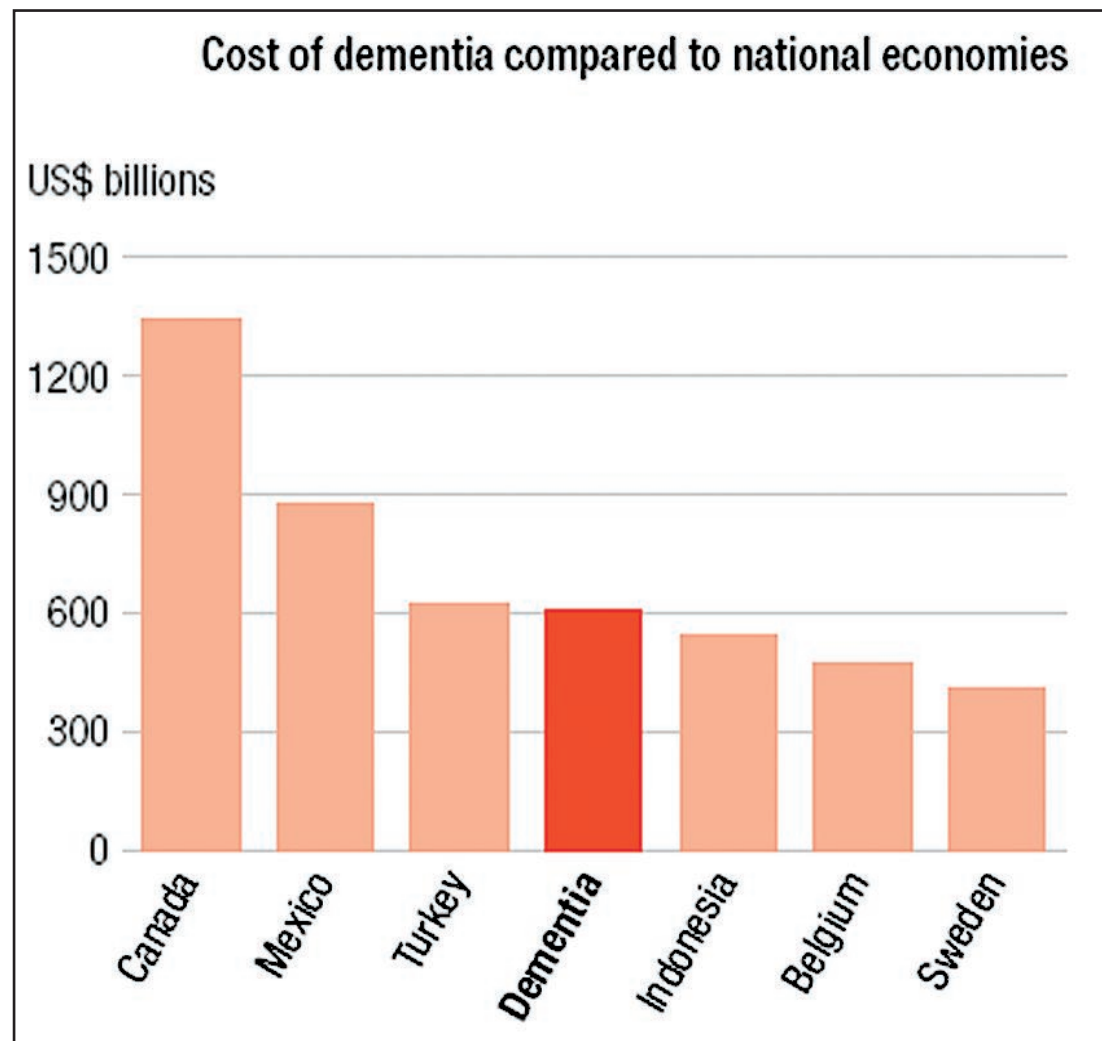
as the Greenchoice Forze hydrogen car; they will give demonstrations on the Boulevard.

Professor Wubbo Ockels, former NASA astronaut and innovator in technology as well as Aruba's Edward Cheung, principle engineer of the Hubble Space Telescope Servicing Project, will be present at the conference, which runs through September 1st.

The energy conference is going to donate AWG. 2 of every entry of AWG. 5 to the Cas di Glas effort.

It's time for action!

On World Alzheimer's Day 2010 we are calling out to people across the world to tell them that it is time for action!



We are calling on governments and policy makers to recognize the impact of dementia on our local, national and international communities. We are asking those people with dementia who currently have not been diagnosed or their loved ones to recognize the signs of dementia and seek help and support as soon as possible. We are urging individuals from all walks of life to take part in the activities of their local or national association, helping them to raise awareness, or to improve the life a person with dementia in any way they possibly can.

No matter how large or small the gesture, we hope that many will take the time to show some commitment to this cause. Dementia has a devastating effect on, not only the person with the disease, but also their family, friends and caretakers. The World Alzheimer Report 2009 showed us that there are now 35.6 million people with dementia worldwide and this number is set to increase to 115.4 million by 2050.



The heartbreak of dementia

Today, we are exposing the true economic impact of dementia with the second part of this report. It is clear from the figures that urgent action is essential and we cannot wait any longer.

On behalf of Alzheimer Disease International, I would like to wish all of our member associations across

the world a very successful World Alzheimer's Day. You all play an important part in our global movement and your ongoing commitment and input is greatly appreciated.

Written by Dr. Daisy Acosta
Chairman Alzheimer's
Disease International



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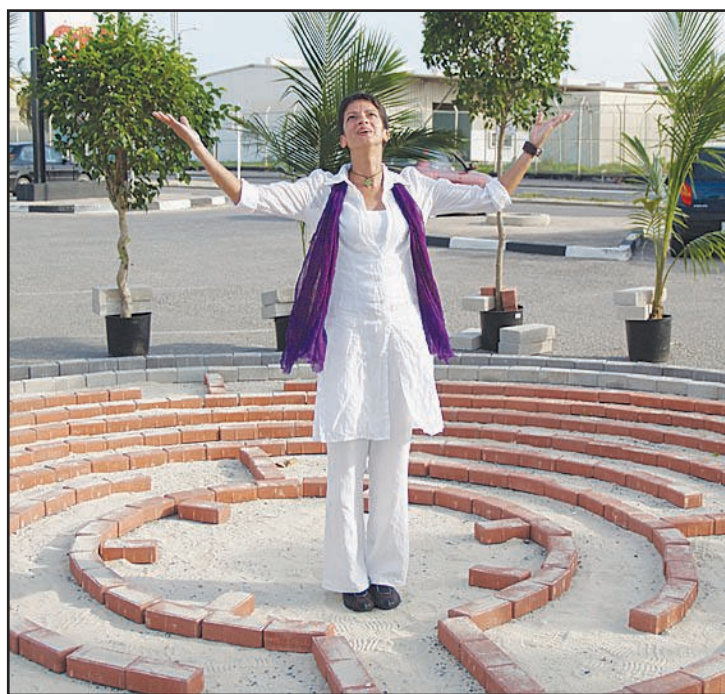
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Today is International Day of Peace: 5th anniversary of the Aruba Peace Labyrinth



walking the labyrinth to achieve inner peace

"Labyrinths are found in almost every major religious tradition in the world and are an integral part of many cultures. They define sacred space. And here on Aruba, the region of Alto Vista is recognized as such a sacred place," explains Peter Auwerda, one of the founders and builders of the Aruba Peace

Labyrinth. "It is an ancient metaphor for one's spiritual journey and some cave wall depictions date back more than 4,000 years. It is a winding pathway that leads to a center; walking a labyrinth helps quiet the mind, open the soul and evokes feelings of wholeness and unity. The difference between a maze

and a labyrinth is that a maze is designed to get people lost, while in the labyrinth there is only one route to follow, leading to one center point and from there back again to the entrance. In a labyrinth, therefore, one will never get lost"

The Aruba Peace Labyrinth is based on this Chartres 11-circuit design which was constructed around 1201 AD. Medieval Christians visited the Chartres Cathedral and walked the labyrinth as an alternative to taking the hazardous pilgrimage to Jerusalem to walk "in the foot steps of Christ".

"Ever since, thousands of people have walked this pathway which represents the journey through life," he concludes.

All are welcome to join in today's walking of the Aruba Peace Labyrinth. Groups will gather at 5:00 PM, with a number of activities planned. Peace stickers, flags and gift items are available at Antraco Samson Bookstore.

By Rosalie Klein



Peter Auwerda, principal volunteer



A human peace circle at the labyrinth in 2008

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late show:	11:00	PG-13	late show:	11:30	PG-13
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daily:	6:00 - 8:30		daily:	6:00 - 8:30	NEW
matinee:	12:30 - 3:15	R	matinee:	1:00 - 3:30	R
late show:	11:00		late show:	11:00	
NANNY MC PHEE RETURNS			AVATAR SPECIAL EDITION 3D		
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late show:			TAKERS		
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DINNER FOR SCHMUCKS (COMEDY)



Dinner for Schmucks

FOR DRESSING MICE UP IN TINY OUTFITS TO RECREATE GREAT WORKS OF ART. CENTRIC CHARACTER AS HIS GUEST. ENTER BARRY (STEVE CARELL), A GUY WITH A PASSION FOR DRESSING MICE UP IN TINY OUTFITS TO RECREATE GREAT WORKS OF ART.

DINNER FOR SCHMUCKS TELLS THE STORY OF TIM (PAUL RUDD), A GUY ON THE VERGE OF HAVING IT ALL. THE ONLY THING STANDING BETWEEN HIM AND TOTAL CAREER SUCCESS IS FINDING THE PERFECT GUEST TO BRING TO HIS BOSS' ANNUAL DINNER FOR EXTRAORDINARY PEOPLE, AN EVENT WHERE THE WINNER OF THE EVENING BRINGS THE MOST ECEC-CENTRIC CHARACTER AS HIS GUEST. ENTER BARRY (STEVE CARELL), A GUY WITH A PASSION

Sci-Tech

HP Launches Wireless All-in-One Desktop



All-in-one desktops offer the performance of a tower desktop PC while saving valuable desktop space. But such convenience comes at a price, often between \$800 to \$1,000. HP has bucked the trend with its latest all-in-one desktop offering, the HP Omni 100, which will retail for under \$500.

The Omni 100 is aimed squarely at consumers who want to dip a toe in the all-in-one desktop space without emptying their wallet. It measures about 16 inches by 20 inches by 8.7 inches (HWD) and sports a glossy black bezel accented with matte black. The 20-inch widescreen has a HD (720p) resolution of 1,600-by-900. Unlike HP's other all-in-one desktops (i.e., the TouchSmart series), the Omni 100 doesn't have touch capability.

Wireless connectivity comes by way of 802.11b/g/n Wi-Fi; for those who prefer a wired connection, the Omni 100 also comes with an Ethernet port. Other ports include 6 USB 2.0 ports (two on the left and four on the back), but there is no HDMI or DVI port available. Other features include a 6-in-1 media card reader, a Webcam, a USB keyboard and an optical mouse.

The Omni 100 features a 1.8-GHz AMD Athlon II 260 dual-core processor, 3GB of DDR3 memory (expandable to 8GB), and a 500GB, 7,200-RPM hard drive. Graphics is integrated—via the ATI Radeon HD 4270 integrated chipset—and the DVD burner comes with LightScribe technology.

The Omni 100 will retail for \$499.99 with its base configuration and will be available on September 22. Select retailers will have units on October 24.



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Sub-zero seed preserves bid to save orchids



seeds.

The initial focus will be on the 250 species of the 35,000 orchid species in danger of extinction, Pritchard told AFP.

"One of the factors is over-exploitation of species in the forests with commercial ends; another is climate change that is expected to accelerate the extinction of many species over the next 40 years," Pritchard said.

Specialists from 23 countries belonging to the OSSU concluded a five-day meeting on the subject here last week.

The project encourages scientists in each country to freeze large amounts of seeds of their native species at temperatures of -20 degrees Celsius (-4 degrees Fahrenheit).

"The seeds will serve in the future for species re-introduction projects, habitat restoration and other sustainable uses," Pritchard said.

Orchid seeds measure mere micrograms, so millions can be stored in vials in small freezer.

"Theoretically, a representative sample of seeds from all of the world's orchid species could be stored in a space no larger than that occupied by a few domestic refrigerators," Pritchard wrote in an article with co-author Philip Seaton in the October 2008 edition of Orchids magazine.

"Thus, seed banks can provide a means of preserving maximum genetic diversity in a minimum space, and at relatively little cost," the authors wrote.

SAN JOSE (AFP) — Scientists from around the world gathered in Costa Rica this month to exchange ideas on ways to make sure orchids, among the world's most popular flowers, will still be around for the next generation to enjoy.

Many of the orchids of the future, mere seeds today, are in a deep slumber inside glass vials in sub-zero temperature cared for by botanists with a group that has an acronym that sounds like a secret spy group: the OSSSU, or Orchid Seed Stores for Sustainable Use.

Hugh Pritchard, a British scientist with the Millennium Seed Bank Project -- an international plant conservation project coordinated by the Britain's Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew -- said that the OSSSU hopes to build a network of seed banks around the world to preserve orchid



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Health & Living

Cancer: New gene clues point to women's 'silent killers'

PARIS (AFP) – Gene detectives said they had netted a clutch of tipoffs to help identify women with a higher inherited risk of ovarian and breast cancer, dubbed "silent killers" for the stealthy way they claim lives.

The work gathered experts from the United States, Europe, Canada and Australia, who trawled through the genetic code of tens of thou-

sands of women, looking for single-letter changes found among women with cancer but absent among women who were otherwise healthy.

Their work was published online in the journal Nature Genetics.

One study found telltale DNA on chromosomes 2, 3, 8, 17 and 19 that strongly indicated risk from serious ovarian cancer, the term for

the commonest and most aggressive form of this disease.

Another paper found that a variation of DNA on Chromosome 19 amplified the risk of breast cancer associated with a well-known culprit, a faulty copy of the BRCA1 gene, which is located on Chromosome 17.

What role these variants perform in the biology of cancer is unclear, and finding

out will probably take many more years of investigation.

Even so, the researchers believe that the clues add powerfully to the basket of genetic telltales for cancer, which thus opens the way to diagnostic tools for women at risk.

Ovarian cancer is the fifth commonest cancer in developed countries and is often detected too late, when the chances of a cure are remote. Each year, about 130,000 women around the world die from the disease.

FDA panel says 'no' to experimental diet pill

ADELPHI, Md. – Federal health experts rejected a highly anticipated weight loss pill Thursday that was thought to offer a safer way to shed pounds than older medications linked to dangerous side effects.

The Food and Drug Administration's panel of experts voted 9-5 against Arena Pharmaceuticals' drug lorcaserin, saying a series of unresolved safety questions outweighed the drug's modest benefits.

Panelists raised concerns about tumors seen in rats in early stage testing of the drug. Other safety concerns included higher rates of depression and memory loss among patients taking the

company's pill compared with dummy pills.

The FDA is not required to follow the panel's vote and will make its own decision by Oct. 22.

Thursday's vote is a major setback for San Diego-based Arena, which currently has no drugs on the U.S. market. Its pill lorcaserin is one of three drugs racing to be the first new prescription weight loss drug approved by the Food and Drug Administration in more than a decade. In July, the same FDA panel voted against recommending approval for Vivus Inc.'s Qnexa due to safety concerns. Orexigen Therapeutics is scheduled to have its own drug reviewed at a meeting in December.

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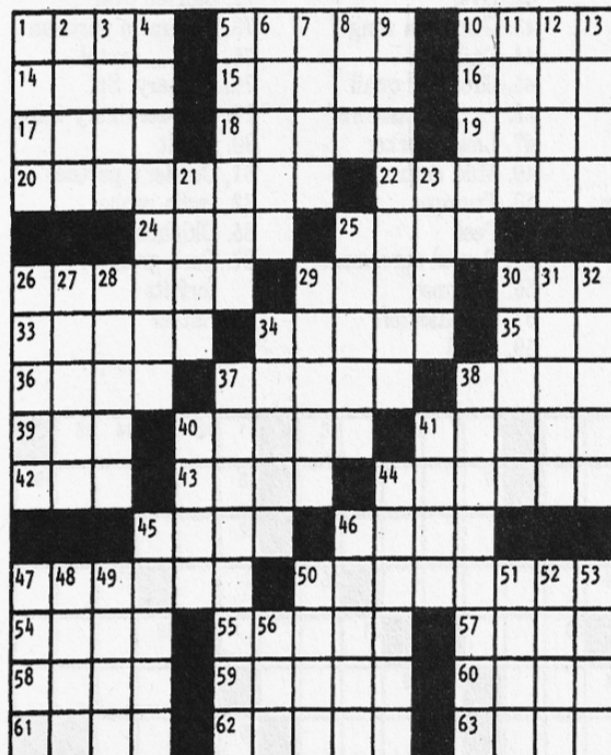
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• ENTERTAINING •

ACROSS

1. Mr. Mertz
5. United: 2 wds.
10. Four year degs.
14. Riley's life
15. Ulan ____
16. Swiss river
17. Rt.-hand man
18. Written music
19. Aggravate
20. Shubert and
22. Dressing-room appurtenance
24. Bulwer-Lytton heroine
25. To laugh, in France



26. "Rodeo," e.g.
29. Marquand detective
30. Lamb's mom
33. Propagate
34. "Love Boat" accommodation
35. Legal thing
36. Prod
37. Bar mixer
38. Chevy's kind of fall
39. Amer. ship letters
40. Our Miss Brooks

41. Verify
42. Born
43. Prevaricated
44. Tap-dancing Ruby
45. Road company jaunt
46. Audible disapproval
47. Hymn
50. Edith Head, e.g.
54. Alaskan city
55. Inspirations for "Cats"
57. Hollywood's Virginia
58. Female deer
59. Odalisque's abode
60. Stone who played Henry Aldrich
61. Ms. Meara
62. Metric measure
63. Action

DOWN

1. Achievement
2. Headstrong
3. To be, to Caesar
4. Itemized
5. Away
6. ____ bleu!
7. Western Indians
8. Scand. land
9. Hermitlike
10. Ballerina's prop
11. "State ____"
12. Young Guthrie
13. Clairvoyant
21. ____ the line
23. Press
25. Williams who was "Popeye"
26. Kid's weapon: 2 wds.
27. Stood
28. Charter
29. Handsomely tressed
30. Hollywood's Flynn
31. Use a loom
32. Lab compound
34. Cryptologist
37. Victories
38. Dared
40. Medicinal plant
41. Nuisance
44. "____, Kate": 2 wds.
45. Not those
46. Four-bagger
47. "A Man ____ Woman": 2 wds.
48. Lunchtime
49. Govt. agents
50. Wax
51. Labyrinth
52. 1944 Fontaine role
53. Major artery
56. Dobbin's tidbit

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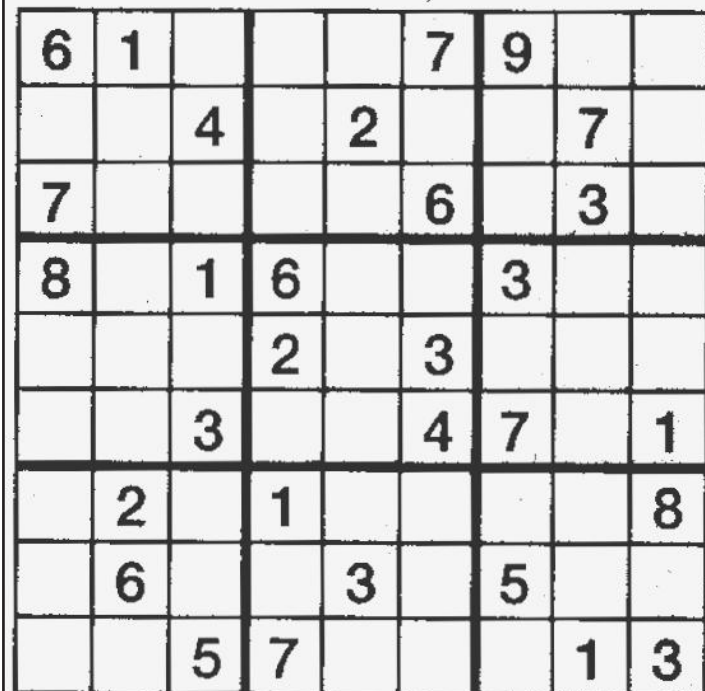
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SOLUTION

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2	8	9	7	6	4	3	5	1
8	7	9	6	5	1	2	3	4
1	9	2	4	6	8	3	7	5
9	8	4	3	1	7	9	2	6
6	2	3	9	2	9	1	4	8
2	3	1	9	4	5	8	6	7
6	7	8	1	2	6	4	3	5
4	5	6	7	8	3	2	1	9

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

Finance

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Gold soars to new record peak

LONDON, England (AFP) - Gold prices rocketed to a fresh record above 1,283 dollars yesterday, as the metal was lifted by the weakening US dollar, dealers said.

The metal surged to 1,283.80 dollars an ounce at 4:30 pm (1530 GMT) on the London Bullion Market.

The dollar wobbled yesterday on the eve of the US Federal Reserve's latest interest rate meeting, as dealers bet that the central bank could decide to expand its purchases of US government bonds.

"Speculation of further quantitative easing of US monetary policy is weighing on the US dollar ahead of tomorrow's Fed meeting and thus pushing gold prices up," said Commerzbank analysts yesterday in a note to clients.

"It is therefore not surprising that investor interest in gold is persistently high," they added.

A weaker greenback boosts demand for dollar-priced gold, which becomes cheaper for buyers using stronger currencies. In turn, that tends to lift prices.

Gold began its latest record-breaking run last week, as investors sought a safe-haven for their cash, amid jitters over the global economic recovery and fears of higher inflation.

Gold began its latest record-breaking run last week, as investors sought a safe-haven for their cash, amid jitters over the global economic recovery and fears of higher inflation.

Competition watchdog fines French banks 384 mln euros

PARIS, France (AFP) - France's competition authority said yesterday it had fined 11 big French banks 384 million euros (503 million dollars) for imposing an unfair commission for handling customer cheques.

In 2002, the banks introduced a 4.3 euro cents commission per cheque, arguing that it was necessary to compensate for a loss of revenue which came after the cheque processing system was speeded up.

The banks said they were losing out on interest payments because they had to release the

funds for the cheques sooner than under the previous processing system.

But the competition authority said in a statement that after conducting an inquiry it had concluded the commission charged was unjustified.

It noted that the banks stopped charging the commission in 2007 because of the "pressure of the inquiry."

EU: Broadband access needed to secure a million jobs

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AFP) - Regulators warned yesterday that a million jobs across Europe could be at stake if national authorities fail to boost high-speed broadband Internet roll-out and take-up.

The European Union's commissioner for the digital agenda, Neelie Kroes, said action to complete ultra-fast fixed and mobile Internet coverage would hold the key to "Europe's wider prospects for economic growth and social cohesion."

Unveiling proposals flagged up by AFP on Sunday,

WTO sees record global trade growth in 2010

GENEVA, Switzerland (AFP) - The World Trade Organization yesterday raised its trade growth forecast for 2010 to 13.5 percent from 10 percent, describing the pace as the fastest-ever annual expansion in global commerce.

"Following faster-than-expected recovery in global trade flows so far in 2010, WTO economists have revised their projection for world trade growth in 2010 upwards to 13.5 percent," said the trade body in a statement.

The forecast growth marks a sharp recovery from a 12.2 percent plunge in world trade in 2009, when exports were hurt by the economic slowdown, and would effectively make up for the ground lost during the crisis.

"This would be the fastest year-on-year expansion of trade ever recorded in a data series going back to 1950," noted the WTO.

"This surge in trade flows provides the means to climb out of this painful economic recession and can help put people back to work," said WTO director-general, Pascal Lamy.

The trade body's economists now expect merchandise exports for developed economies to expand by 11.5 percent, almost reversing a plunge of 15.3 percent in 2009 and an upwards revision from a 7.5 percent forecast made in March.

In the rest of the world, growth is expected to reach 16.5 percent, a marked recovery from the drop of 7.8 percent last year. In March, economists had expected growth of 11 percent for this group.

The expansion in trade volumes was particularly significant in the first half of 2010, as both developed and developing nations climbed out of the worst economic slump since World War II.

Exports were up some 25

percent in the first half, with emerging economic giants leading growth, according to trade data released on September 1.

China posted a 41 percent gain in exports in the second quarter, while India's exports were up by a third, according to recent data from the trade body.

However, the WTO warned yesterday that output growth would slow in the second half as measures put in place by governments to stimulate the economy end and companies wind down their restocking.

Nevertheless, trade figures released by some countries for the early part of the second half indicate that growth was continuing.

Taiwan's exports were up a record 34.88 billion US dollars in August, while the United States also reported that exports in July reached their highest level in two years.

US exits longest recession since World War II

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The US economy exited recession in June 2009, the National Bureau of Economic Research said yesterday, making it official that the downturn was the longest in more than half a century.

More than eight million jobs were lost in the slump that was triggered by dodgy Wall Street mortgage investments.

President Barack Obama said the end of the "Great Recession" would come as little solace to the millions of people who are still out of work.

"Even though economists may say that the recession officially ended last year, obviously for the millions of people

who are still out of work, people who have seen their home values decline, people who are struggling to pay the bills day to day, it's still very real for them."

The NBER underscored that slow pace of recovery as it issued a statement that confirmed: "The recession lasted 18 months, which makes it the longest of any recession since World War II."

"The committee did not conclude that economic conditions since that month have been favorable or that the economy has returned to operating at normal capacity," it noted, pointedly.

At the same time it warned "economic activity is typically below normal in the early stages of an expansion, and it sometimes remains so well into the expansion."

Earlier yesterday the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development warned that the US economy would grow at a slower-than-expected rate of 1.5 percent this year.

The Paris-based OECD said US growth would be far less than the 3.2 percent predicted in May, and would increase to only 2.3 percent next year raising the specter of a painfully slow recovery.

"The United States is slowly recovering from a severe recession and, with eco-

nomics growth projected to remain low for some time," the OECD said.

The body added that "unemployment is likely to stay elevated for a relatively long period."

"Continuation of targeted support for the labor market may also be necessary until private sector employment picks up more strongly."

But there was some good news.

Despite economists' warnings of a double-dip recession, the NBER said the economy had already recovered enough that any new slide would be an entirely new recession.

"The committee decided that any future downturn of the economy would be a new recession and not a continuation of the recession that began in December 2007."

"The basis for this decision was the length and strength of the recovery to date."

Unlike many countries where a recession is defined as two consecutive quarters of shrinking growth domestic product, in the United States it is determined by a seven-member NBER panel.

Although the depth of the crisis had already been clear, the NBER confirmed it was longer than those which began in 1973 and 1981 and which both lasted 16 months.

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

T	A	M	P	S	T	A	B	R	A	P
A	R	E	A	T	I	M	E	E	L	I
L	I	A	R	R	E	E	L	V	I	E
C	A	L	I	C	O	N	O	T	E	
	S	O	N	S	W	A	R	E	S	
L	O	S	A	G	E	D	N	E	R	O
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D	I	A	L	R	E	D	O	D	E	S
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G	A	L	N	E	A	T	T	I	D	E
I	C	E	T	A	L	E				
L	E	D	S	L	E	D	R	E	E	D

Have you had your breakfast today? The Old Fisherman offers breakfast with an Aruban twist



R-L, Monica and Amarilis with their fellow colleagues

When Linda and Ramon Pimienta started their small business at the old wharf down town, little did they know that they had a goldmine when it comes to the perfect blend of international and local cuisine. Nowadays, they are located right behind the Royal Plaza Mall where they serve up a storm to visitors and locals alike. What is their secret? Offering high quality dishes at super prizes

that fit anyone's budget. When Linda and Ramon Pimienta started their small business at the old wharf down town, little did they know that they had a goldmine when it comes to the perfect blend of international and local cuisine. Nowadays, they are located right behind the Royal Plaza Mall where they serve up a storm to visitors and locals alike. What is their secret? Offering high quality dishes at super prizes

have been with the company for ten years are ready to serve you with a smile. Besides serving traditional breakfast dishes such as eggs sunny side up with ham and cheese, scrambled or plain they also serve pastechi horna (a small pie pocket with different fillings), crêpes, sweet crêpes and bagels with cream cheese, smoked salmon or boiled eggs.

If you want to really experience the Aruban twist you



that fit anyone's budget.

For ten years The Old Fisherman has been serving local cuisine with an international twist for lunch and dinner and they have managed to

might want to try something from the local breakfast menu served on pan grandi (rama) or a baguette. You can try the delicious kerrie-kerrie (a typical Aruban flaked



stay on top by using high quality fresh ingredients. From their fish cakes with "funchi" (polenta) and "pan bati" nicely presented to soup of the day accompanied by delicious deserts.

Now they are serving you breakfast with an Aruban twist at bargain prizes.

Monica and Amarilis who

fish), conch, fish egg, shrimp, fish fillet, fish cake and the chicken soup or you can have fruit salad and yoghurt.

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Dr. Viana shared his nutritional knowledge during a unique Blood Type Dinner



The unique Blood Type Dinner evening at De Suikertuin Restaurant, held this past Friday evening, was fantastic: the cozy garden was chock-full of guests who were raring at the bit to know more about what foods would be beneficial or detrimental to their bodies according to their types of blood. They got what they came for!

Before his lecture began, Dr. Carlos Viana, a certified clinical nutritionist, had written his prediction of what his audience was made up of blood type-wise, on a piece of paper. And he was proven right: half of those present had blood type O (positive or negative), a third was A, 4 people had B as their blood type and only one lady had AB. That, according to the doctor, was for Aruba the normal cross section of the population.

Dr. Viana started off with the words 'One Man's Meat is Another Man's Poison' (Lucretius, 55 BC) and that sentence illustrates that not everyone is the same, certainly not with regard to food and the processing of food of the body. The doctor said that he realized a number of years ago that there are so many

diets around, each predicting miracles, but that all of them have two things in common: they are high in proteins and low in carbohydrates.

Then he proceeded to indicate what the various blood types should eat and what they should not eat: O-types

A-types, however, are the vegetarians among us: they have weak stomachs and should consume no dairy products either. They are allergic to potatoes, tomatoes, cabbage and bananas; they can eat fish, turkey or chicken, beans, rice, corn and oats, however. B-types should be wary of chicken, peanuts, tomatoes and corn and there was bad news for AB's, as they have the worst of both worlds (A and B together). These types should eat six small meals a day, with no starches whatsoever.

Dr. Viana concluded his speech with the words 'Emotions affect your health, but your health also affects your emotions.' His tips for a healthy lifestyle: hydrate yourself with mineral water (1 liter per 30 kilos of body weight) or apple juice, sleep at least 8 hours per night and exercise at least 30 minutes a day (walking is fine)

And then the feast began: inside De Suikertuin a colorful buffet with specific



should not eat wheat products, as they slow their metabolisms, and they certainly should not consume any milk products as these cause osteoporosis, strangely enough. No, for O's the word is red meat, fish, chicken and seafood, fruits and vegetables.

Blood-Typed options was set out enticingly, combining pastas with chicken, salads and sauces. As guests sampled the dishes, the talk was, of course, about healthy food and surprising diet results and weight loss. An enlightening and fun evening!

Lockerbie bomber 'can get out of bed, walk'

LONDON, England (AFP) – The cancer-stricken Lockerbie bomber can get out of bed and walk although he is clearly a very sick man, said the father of a victim after visiting him in Libya.

Abdelbaset Ali Mohmet al-Megrahi invited Jim Swire, whose 23-year-old daughter Flora was one of 270 killed in the 1988 bombing, to visit him and the two men spent an hour together on a hospital ward in Tripoli today.

Swire, who is British, is convinced of the Libyan's innocence and has spearheaded a campaign for an inquiry into the bombing.

Megrahi, the only person ever convicted of the attack, was released from a Scottish prison in August last year on compassionate grounds after being diagnosed with prostate cancer.

Scotland's devolved government, which has control over its own justice matters, freed the bomber after he was given just three months to live and he returned to Libya to a hero's welcome.

But more than a year later he is still alive, to the anger of relatives of the mainly American victims who died when Pan



Abdelbaset Ali Mohmet al-Megrahi, seen here at a hospital in Tripoli.

Am flight 103 blew up over the Scottish town of Lockerbie.

Swire, who last saw Megrahi in a Scottish prison in December 2008, said late Sunday that the Libyan looked better than he expected during what he described as a "man-to-man confidential meeting."

"I was very relieved to see him as well as he was. He is a very sick man but he can get out of bed and walk though not very far," said the 74-year-old.

"I think one of the reasons he has lived so long is he has had good treatment in Libya and he has been returned to his family and his community and his country.

"These are a huge relief to the body in fighting cancer because your immune system depends very heavily on how much stress you are under."

Joke of the Day

A woman was sitting at a bar enjoying an after-work cocktail with her girlfriends when an exceptionally tall, handsome, extremely sexy young man entered. He was so striking that the woman could not take her eyes away from him.

The young man noticed her overly attentive stare and walked directly toward her. Before she could offer her apologies for being so rude for staring, the young man said to her, 'I'll do anything, absolutely anything, that you want

me to do, no matter how kinky, for \$100, on one condition.' Flabbergasted, the woman asked what the condition was. The young man replied, 'You have to tell me what you want me to do in just three words.'

The woman considered his proposition for a moment, withdrew from her purse and slowly counted out five \$20 bills, which she pressed into the young man's hand along with her address. She looked deeply into his eyes and slowly, meaningfully said, "Clean my house."

Bushrangers crush dismal Wayamba



Peter Siddle celebrates the wicket of Isuru Udana during the Airtel Champions League Twenty20 match between Victorian Bushrangers and Wayamba Elevens at SuperSport Park

CENTURION (AFP) - The Victoria Bushrangers outclassed a dismal Wayamba Elevens team at SuperSport Park on Monday night to keep alive their hopes of reaching the semi-finals of the Champions League Twenty20 tournament.

Fast bowler Peter Siddle took four for 29 as Wayamba crashed to 106 all out in 16.3 overs, losing their last eight wickets for 25 runs.

Victoria hurried to victory with 6.4 overs to spare with captain David Hussey hitting 47 not out and opening batsman Aaron Finch making 38 not out.

The Bushrangers, who have completed their round robin fixtures with six points from three wins, now have to await the result of a match between Chennai Super Kings and the Eastern Cape Warriors in Port Elizabeth on

Wednesday.

If the unbeaten Warriors beat Chennai, they will go through with Victoria, but if Chennai win the semi-finals places will be decided on run rate.

Chennai have the best net run rate of 2.57 but need the win to draw level on points. The Warriors are on 0.98 and Victoria's big win lifted them into positive territory on 0.03.

"Hopefully we can go a long way in this tournament because we are playing some good cricket now," said Hussey.

Wayamba reached 81 for two after ten overs with Mahela Jayawardene (51) and captain Jehan Mubarak (44) putting on 72 off 52 balls for the third wicket. But Mubarak fell to a superb catch at cover by Hussey and the Sri Lankan side collapsed ignominiously against the fast bowling of Siddle and James Pattinson and the medium pace of Andrew McDonald.

Nine batsmen contributed five runs between them, with six failing to score.

Victoria were outstanding in the field but Wayamba followed their poor batting by dropping two early catches and missing a run-out opportunity as well as allowing extra runs through misfields.

"That was probably our worst performance of the tournament," said Mubarak.

"We need to do a lot of soul searching."

Mourinho closes door on Portugal coaching job

MADRID (AFP) - Jose Mourinho has closed the door on any possibility that he will take temporary charge of the Portuguese national team for two Euro 2012 qualifiers next month, saying the "issue is closed".

"Being Portuguese I am always available to talk about the team, (but) as a coach the issue is closed and I don't want to talk about it any more," he told a news conference on Monday.

Coach-less Portugal have made a poor start to their Euro 2012 qualifying bid, drawing 4-4 with Cyprus and losing 1-0 to Norway.

Portugal had asked if Mourinho could take the reins for the next two qualifiers, following the dismissal of previous coach Carlos Queiroz, only for his club Real Madrid



to block the move.

Spanish sports daily Marca reported at the weekend that former Sporting Lisbon coach Paulo Bento is set to sign a two-year contract with the Portuguese Football Federation.

"If it is Paulo Bento, that is good. If it is someone else, that is good as well. As for coaching the national team for two matches, the issue is

closed, there is no more to it," said Mourinho.

"Being Portuguese I always want the national team to be doing well. The coach will always have my support as the coach of three of the players of the national team (Pepe, Ricardo Carvalho and Cristiano Ronaldo). Portugal face Denmark and Iceland in October.

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Mexico's Rojas takes WBC super fly title



Tomas Rojas (top) of Mexico is lifted after his victory against Kohei Kono of Japan during the WBC super flyweight title bout in Saitama, suburban Tokyo

SAITAMA (AFP) - Second-ranked Tomas Rojas of Mexico scored a unanimous points victory against Japan's Kohei Kono to take the vacant World Boxing Council (WBC) super-flyweight title on Monday.

The 30-year-old Mexican, who became the interim champion in July last year, scored heavily with a barrage

of uppercuts and straights against the Japanese.

Kono went on the attack in the final round, firing a right hook that put Rojas on the canvas, but the effort could not overturn the wide points margin.

"It was a good fight. He (Kono) fought bravely like other Japanese boxers. I was able to win despite the down in the end. I hope to come back to Japan and fight again," said Rojas.

Rojas improved his record to 34 wins, including 23 KOs, against 12 defeats, one draw and one null and void.

The 29-year-old Kono, ranked top in the WBC, saw his record reduced to 25 wins, including nine KOs, against five defeats.

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Injured Colvin sorry to see season end early



CHICAGO (AFP) - Chicago Cubs outfielder Tyler Colvin Monday thanked fans for their support and said he was sorry to see his rookie season ended when a piece from a shattered bat punctured his chest.

Colvin was standing at third base in the second inning of Chicago's 13-3 victory at Florida on Sunday when teammate Welington Castillo hit a broken-bat double.

Colvin was able to score a run from third, but a Cubs trainer said a splinter from the bat hit Colvin in his upper chest, allowing air into his chest well and potentially

into his lungs.

Colvin was taken to hospital and treated with a chest tube to prevent a collapsed lung.

"I want to thank Cubs fans for their support all season, especially right now, and let everyone know that I'm doing OK," the 25-year-old, who remained in hospital in Miami, said in a statement released by the team.

"I also want to thank everyone who has helped take care of me here in Miami - the Cubs and Marlins training and medical staffs, the EMTs at the ballpark and everyone here at the hospital."

It's back to back-up for Vick as Kolb returns

PHILADELPHIA (AFP) - Michael Vick, who made his first NFL start at quarterback in nearly four years on Sunday, will return to a back-up and option role now that Kevin Kolb is healthy, Eagles coach Andy Reid said Monday.

Reid said Kolb would start at quarterback on Sunday when the Eagles visit Jacksonville, despite two impressive performances from Vick.

Vick threw for 175 yards and one touchdown and ran for 103 in a 27-20 loss to the Packers, nearly rallying the Eagles to victory from a 17-point deficit after he came on in place of the injured Kolb.

Vick had 284 yards passing and two touchdowns in a 35-32 win over Detroit on Sunday, his first start since a spectacular fall from grace thanks to his role in a dogfighting ring.

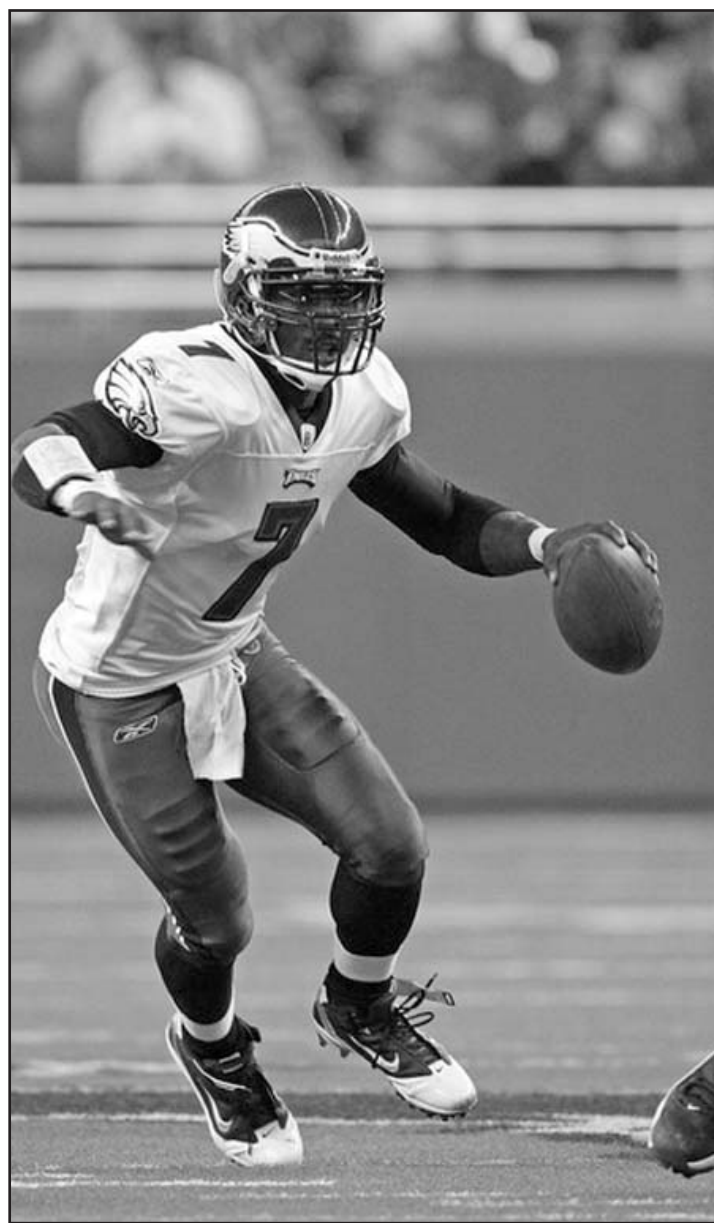
Vick, once the cornerstone of the Atlanta Falcons franchise, missed two NFL seasons while serving an 18-month prison sentence for his part in the dogfighting operation.

Prior to last season he inked a two-year contract with the Eagles, playing little behind Donovan McNabb and Kolb.

Kolb has been cleared to practice after suffering a concussion against Green Bay.

Vick still will play in Philadelphia's version of the wildcat offense, Reid said. In the first play of the season, he lined up as a receiver.

"I think it's a beautiful situation," Reid said Monday. "I look at it a lot differently than other people look at it. I've got two quarterbacks that can play at a very important position."



tion."

Reid said he was proud of how the onetime superstar had adapted to his role with the Eagles.

"I'm very proud of him," Reid said. "It's a true testament that if you work hard, you keep your nose clean, good things can happen. And he's worked very hard at doing both those things and

I'm proud of the way he led the football team."

After Sunday's game, Vick said he had thought a lot about his path to that start for the Eagles.

"I had to overcome a lot of adversity, a lot of self-inflicted wounds, things that I caused for myself. You've just got to keep fighting. That's just the game of life."

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Belgium defeat Australia to stay in World Group

CAIRNS (AFP) - Belgium won both the reverse singles to defeat Australia 3-2 on Monday to retain their place in the 2011 Davis Cup World Group.

The 117th-ranked Steve Darcis overcame Australian Carsten Ball, 7-6 (7/4), 6-3, 6-4 in the fifth and deciding singles rubber in two hours 23 minutes, to hand the Belgians victory after they had trailed 2-1 following their doubles loss on Saturday.

The stage was set for Belgium's comeback when their number one designated player Olivier Rochus held out Peter Luczak 7-6 (10/8), 6-4, 6-7 (0/7), 7-6 (7/2) in al-



Belgium's Olivier Rochus serves to Peter Luczak of Australia

most four and a half hours earlier on Monday.

World No.126 Luczak was a replacement for former world number one Lleyton

Hewitt, who injured his hand while playing in Saturday's doubles.

Belgium was forced into the playoff after a 4-1 home defeat to the Czech Republic in the World Group first round in Bree.

Australia, the 28-time champions and second only to the United States in Davis Cup wins, will next year have to play in the Asia-Oceania group once again.

It was the first time Australia had lost a Davis Cup tie on hardcourt since 2004.

The playoff went into a fourth day after rain ruined Sunday's schedule.



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Floyd Landis slams world road championships organisers

SYDNEY (AFP) - Disgraced American cyclist Floyd Landis has slammed world road championships organisers in Australia after they withdrew their support for a conference he is listed to attend.

Landis was stripped of his 2006 Tour de France title for doping and earlier this year admitted using performance-enhancing drugs.

However, he was scheduled to speak at the "New Pathways For Pro Cycling" conference which takes place

in Geelong.

The meeting originally had the support of the world championships organisers but a spokesman for the championships confirmed at the weekend that it had withdrawn its backing, saying they did not want to give Landis a "soapbox".

"To be clear, I do not wish to use the conference as a soapbox, nor do I wish to hijack the world championships," Landis said.

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